



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

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MAY - 2 2016

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

ELLINGTON TOWN CLERK

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

DOUGLAS B. HARDING
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
JOHN P. RACHEK
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

Board of Finance

Budget Deliberations
April 26, 2016

Minutes

Board of Finance

Members Present: Robert Clements, Chairman, Douglas Harding, Mark Joyse, Barry Pinto, John Rachek, Michael Varney

Others Present: Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer/Treasurer; Gary T. Feldman, Sr., Chief, EVFD; Al Lawrence, Fire Marshal; Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools; Joe Palombizio, Emergency Management Director; James Prichard, Selectman; Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Troopers' Office; Lori Spielman, First Selectman; Ronald Stomberg, Selectman; John Turner, Selectman; Tim Webb, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator.

Chairman Robert Clements opened the deliberations at 7:38 p.m.

Budget Deliberations:

Chairman Clements welcomed all parties to the budget deliberations.

Mr. Joyse recommended that the new position at the Senior Center not be added at this time given what's going on with the State and reimbursements. He suggested giving the Senior Center time to get their expenses under control.

Mr. Clements passed out a document detailing a one percent cut across the board. He did not think that a one percent cut across the board was the way to go. He noted that there are some entities for which a one percent cut would be disastrous.

Mr. Rachek noted the \$200,000 the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) had budgeted for renovations. He suggested splitting that amount evenly over two years.

Mr. Harding suggested removing \$47,000 for the Center School cafeteria air conditioning.

Mr. Pinto asked if the snow plow budget could be trimmed in light of a mild winter. Mr. Webb replied that the worst truck is going to be traded in. Mr. Pinto also asked about the mower replacement. Mr. Webb replied that it was addressed in his memo. Mr. DiCorleto described the budget document (final document attached) in detail.

Mr. DiCorleto noted that he removed the new pumper for the EVFD and added \$10,000 for a fire department study. He noted that he still wants to buy the pumper but wants to delay it for a year in order to get more bids and consider the cost.

Mr. Clements suggested studying the idea of tearing down the center fire house and starting fresh. He did lament that studying replacing the fire house would delay any potential renovations. Mr. Feldman said he was leery about how his men would react to further renovation delays after thirteen years of trying to renovate. Mr. Clements asked if the previous study was on renovating or replacing the fire house. Mr. Feldman replied that the previous study was on all emergency services in the Town. He concluded that replacing the fire house would cost four to six million dollars. Mr. Clements reassured Mr. Feldman that the BOF was looking to work with the EVFD, not against it. Mr. Joyse wondered if the town had the appetite for spending money on a brand new firehouse – he suggested continuing to renovate until the need is dire.

Mr. Varney suggested a fresh look at the emergency services throughout the Town. He asked for a more comprehensive study than a facility study.

Mr. Varney recommended purchasing the new pumper this year rather than next year.

Mr. Varney asked if the budget for bathroom renovation at Hall Memorial Library could be trimmed. Ms. Spielman responded that it had already been reduced.

Mr. Varney said that he saw areas to trim in the ambulance budget but he suggested not cutting the ambulance budget and instead ensuring that they stick to their budget as they have gone over budget an average of \$30,000 over the last three years.

Mr. Clements noted the amount of cuts to the Fire Marshal's department and asked if the cuts would cripple the department. Mr. Lawrence replied that they would not.

The discussion turned to the cut to Sunday lake patrol. Mr. Turner suggested that cutting Sunday lake patrol would result in a free-for-all on Crystal Lake and residents will be dissatisfied with the lack of police presence. Mr. Clements noted that the alternative of closing the beach on Sunday was not an alternative at all.

Mr. Varney asked where the reduction of \$766,000 to the Board of Education would come from. Mr. DiCorleto replied that it would come from delaying all-day Kindergarten. Mr. Varney was not in favor of a reduction of more than \$100,000.

Mr. Clements said that aggressively seeking no increase in the mill rate was unrealistic. He said that if nothing were cut tonight the mill rate would raise by 0.7 mills. Mr. Varney asked what the increase would be if the Board of Education were cut \$100,000 and the pumper were put back into the budget. Mr. DiCorleto said he could purchase the pumper and put off the payment until next year's budget.

Mr. Clements set a goal of a one-half mill increase.

Mr. Joyse asked to restore the books and materials budget at Hall Memorial Library. Mr. Clements saw no problem with that suggestion.

Mr. Rachek asked to restore the budgets for public health and nursing, Kidsafe, youth enrichment, and youth activity – he noted that the youth are the future of the Town.

Mr. Pinto asked to restore the budget for Sunday lake patrol. Sgt. Santa suggested adding Sunday lake patrol from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Dr. Nicol said that the Board of Education could work with a \$100,000 budget reduction.

Mr. Joyse asked to restore the budget for professional development at Hall Memorial Library.

Mr. Turner suggested a comprehensive emergency services study that would cost more than \$10,000. Mr. Clements agreed. Mr. Varney added that the BOF had no context for determining the cost of an emergency services study. Mr. DiCorleto suggested budgeting \$20,000 for the emergency services study and appropriating funds as necessary. Mr. Turner suggested that the study include EMS.

Ms. Spielman suggested cutting at least \$25,000 from the ambulance budget. Mr. Varney agreed. There was some discussion of what accounts in the ambulance budget to cut – Ms. Spielman suggested travel. Mr. Clements decided to cut \$25,000 and allow the ambulance department to decide how to allocate the cuts.

The meeting of the BOF recessed at 8:43 pm and resumed at 9:29 pm.

MOVED (PINTO), SECONDED (JOYSE), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REVENUE INCREASES AND REDUCTIONS LISTED ON PAGE 3 AND FOR THE OPERATION EXPENSES REDUCTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO FOLLOW ON PAGE 3 IN THE BUDGET DOCUMENT ATTACHED.

MOVED (PINTO), SECONDED (HARDING), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUNDS REDUCTIONS AND ADDITIONS AS LISTED ON PAGE 4 IN THE BUDGET DOCUMENT ATTACHED.

MOVED (PINTO), SECONDED (JOYSE), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO THAT THE SUM OF MONEY RECOMMENDED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 IS \$55,352,628 ALL EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANTS (ECS) ARE DEEMED TO BE APPROPRIATED TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

TO RECOMMEND TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$14,748,529
REDEMPTION OF DEBT	\$2,928,382
CONTINGENCY FUND	\$200,000
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$36,099,749
CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND	<u>\$1,375,968</u>
FOR A TOTAL OF	\$55,352,628

MOVED (PINTO), SECONDED (VARNEY), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO A TOWN MEETING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,375,968 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 FOR THE CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND, SAID APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS THAT ARE LISTED ON PAGE 1 (attached).

MOVED (PINTO), SECONDED (VARNEY), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT BOARD OF EDUCATION GRANTS AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AT THEIR MARCH 23, 2016 MEETING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,246,010.

Adjournment:

MOVED (JOYSE), SECONDED (RACHEK), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN
THE BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING AT 9:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Tarzi
Substitute Recording Secretary

MOTION REQUIRED BY BOARD OF FINANCE TO		BOF Meeting - April 26, 2016	
APPROVE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET 2015-16			
MOVED() SECONDED() AND PASSED THAT THE SUM OF MONEY			
RECOMMENDED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 IS \$55,352,628			
ALL EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANTS (ECS)			
ARE DEEMED TO BE APPROPRIATED TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.			
TO RECOMMEND TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING THE FOLLOWING			
ITEMS:			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	\$	14,748,529	
REDEMPTION OF DEBT:	\$	2,928,382	
CONTINGENCY FUND:	\$	200,000	
BOARD OF EDUCATION:	\$	36,099,749	
CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND:	\$	1,375,968	
	\$	55,352,628	
TO RECOMMEND TO A TOWN MEETING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,375,968			
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 FOR THE CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND,			
SAID APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:			
1100 CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND			26-Apr-16
	2016-17	ADDS	2016-17
	BUDGET	(REDUCT)	FINANCE
Project Requests	REQUEST		RECOMMEND
Local Capital Improvement Program	\$	106,719	106,719
Road Overlay	\$	501,304	501,304
DPW-Snow Plow Dumptrucks Replmt	\$	190,000	190,000
DPW-Mower Replacements	\$	110,000	110,000
DPW-ICE Grant Obligations-Various Equipment	\$	30,000	30,000
General Government Telephone System Replmnts	\$	26,200	26,200
HML-Upgrades to the Restrooms	\$	75,000	75,000
Parking Lot Renovations	\$	50,000	50,000
Field Irrigation	\$	25,000	25,000
Emergency Service Study	\$	0	20,000
EVFD-Firehouse Improvements at 29 Main Street	\$	200,000	(100,000)
EVFD-Replmnt 4 Door pickup	\$	50,000	50,000
BOE-Center School Air Conditioning System	\$	47,000	(47,000)
BOE-Center School Phone System	\$	39,700	39,700
BOE-Systemwide Wheelchair Van	\$	52,045	52,045
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$	1,396,249	(20,281)
LESS-FEDERAL/STATE/TRUST FUNDS			
State Grant-LOCIP	\$	106,719	106,719
OPM-Nutmeg Network Broadband Fiber	\$	0	0
DPW Maintenance Fund	\$	0	0
Ambulance Fee Program	\$	0	0
TOTAL	\$	106,719	0
NET COST TO TOWN	\$	1,289,530	(20,281)
CAP NON REC FUND			1,269,249

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MOTION REQUIRED BY BOARD OF FINANCE TO					BOF Meeting - April 26, 2016		
APPROVE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET 2015-16							
BOARD OF EDUCATION GRANT							
MOVED() SECONDED() AND PASSED TO ACCEPT BOARD OF							
EDUCATION GRANTS AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION							
AT THEIR MARCH 23, 2016 MEETING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,246,010.							
(SEE ATTACHED SHEET)							

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ELLINGTON BOARD OF FINANCE				
BUDGET DOCUMENT FISCAL YEAR 2016-17				
APPROVED AT BOF MEETING-April 26, 2016				
INCREASES/REDUCTIONS				
Account	Sub	Account Name		
REVENUE INCREASES(REDUCTIONS)				
FY 15-16		Ambulance Fee Program-REIMB for Service Vehicle	55,000	
	FY 15-16	(\$210,000 Ambulance + Budget \$90,950 = \$300,950)		
FY 15-16		Prior Year Levies-Forclosure property	91,580	
FY 16-17		State-Education Cost Sharing Grant	(404,272)	
FY 16-17		State-Municipal Revenue Sharing-Sales tax funds	(387,246)	
FY 16-17		WPCA-Reimb Mainten Budget-increase p/r reimb	21,000	
		TOTAL REVENUE INCREASES:		(623,938)
OPERATING EXPENSE (REDUCTIONS)/ADDITION				
110	6234	BOS-Professional Development	0	
121	6250	Audit-fee is \$45,000 not \$46,000	(1,000)	
130	6250	Finance Officer-contracted services	(2,500)	
131	5101	Assessor-Appointment of replacement	(7,482)	
131	5101	Assessor-Deputy Assessor replacement	(2,765)	
131	6222	Assessor-Dues,subscriptions	(355)	
131	6223	Assessor-Travel	(1,400)	
131	6233	Assessor-Education	(300)	
131	6234	Assessor-Professional Development	(400)	
140	6250	Town Clerk-contracted services	(500)	
155	6250	Probate Court-	(3,000)	
330	5111	Police-Road Constables	(7,500)	
330	5111	Police-reduce Sunday patrol at the lake	(8,000)	
360	5103	Bldg-Part Time	(1,020)	
360	6273	Bldg-Motor Vehicle repairs	(500)	
360	6346	Bldg-Technical supplies	(400)	
370		EVAC	(25,000)	
391	5103	Fire Marshal-Part Time	(625)	
391	6233	Fire Marshal-Education	(950)	
391	6234	Fire Marshal-Professional Development	(1,000)	
391	6342	Fire Marshal-Uniforms/Protective	(275)	
391	6346	Fire Marshal-Graphics New Vehicle	(650)	
415	6759	New Equipment-Delay Toro Sandpro	(20,000)	
610	6370	HML-Books, Materials Etc.	0	
710	6250	Public Health Nursing	0	
731	6250	Kidsafe CT	0	
744		Youth Enrichment	0	
745		Youth Activity Programs	0	
780		Welfare	0	
795	5103	Senior Center	(2,500)	
795	5103	Senior Center-Admin Sect	(15,912)	
910	6823	Prin-BOE Computer Lease is \$71,713, not \$76,736	(5,023)	
910	6844	Prin-DPW-Street Sweeper is \$41,567, not \$45,243	(3,676)	
910		Proposed Bond Issue Prin-\$1,375,000 Fire Station	(68,750)	
910		Proposed Lease Prin-\$750,000 EVFD Pumper	(150,000)	
920		Proposed Lease Interest-\$750,000 EVFD Pumper	(37,500)	
950	5151	Insurance-Health Ins-Town Planner Admin Sect	(10,000)	
1075	6250	Town Communities-transition to new format	(7,000)	
1100		Capital Outlay-did not include LOCIP,	106,719	
		Used the net Cost to Town Cap Non Rec Fund		
1100		EVFD Firehouse Improvements-29 Main Street	(100,000)	
1100		Emergency Services Study	20,000	
1100		BOE-Center School Air Conditioning System	(47,000)	
1200		Board of Education	(100,000)	
		TOTAL EXPENSE REDUCTIONS		(506,264)

Amounts shown in dollars

BUDTAB-2016-17.xlsx/BOFaddred16-17April262016/4/26/2016/2/1

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ELLINGTON BOARD OF FINANCE			
BUDGET DOCUMENT FISCAL YEAR 2016-17			
APPROVED AT BOF MEETING-April 26, 2016			
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		BUDGET	(REDUCT)
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Parking Lot Renovations		50,000	50,000
Field Irrigation		25,000	25,000
Emergency Services Study		0	20,000
EVFD-Firehouse Improvements at 29 Main Street		200,000	(100,000)
EVFD-Replmnt 4 Door pickup		50,000	50,000
BOE-Center School Air Conditioning System		47,000	(47,000)
BOE-Center School Phone System		39,700	39,700
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL		1,396,249	(20,281)
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OPM-Nutmeg Network Broadband Fiber		0	0
DPW Maintenance Fund		0	0
Ambulance Fee Program		0	0
TOTAL		106,719	0
NET COST TO TOWN		1,289,530	(20,281)
CAP NON REC FUND			